



MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church Tuesday, December 19, 2017 **TWO WEEK EDITION**

Questions, comments or to unsubscribe contact Pastor Dave Fisher at 303-941-0668 or pastordave@spiritofhopelcmc.org Also visit us on the web at www.spiritofhopelcmc.org.

This edition of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church's electronic newsletter will cover both December 19 & 26! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

PASTOR DAVE FISHER IS ON CALL FOR PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND URGENT ISSUES FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, AND SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, AT 303-941-0668.

THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT; CHRISTMAS EVE

The season of Advent will conclude at Spirit of Hope this coming Sunday morning, December 24. The reading from gospel of Luke will be, appropriately, the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-20). We will begin our celebration of Christmas and continue it later in the evening at PEPC (see article below). All the candles of the Advent wreath will be lit! Fellowship Time starts at 9:00 am in the gym at Pine Lane Elementary North (6485 E Ponderosa Drive, Parker, CO 80138). Worship is from 9:30 to 10:30 am. Sunday School will be in recess for the next two Sundays.

WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE – (EVENING)

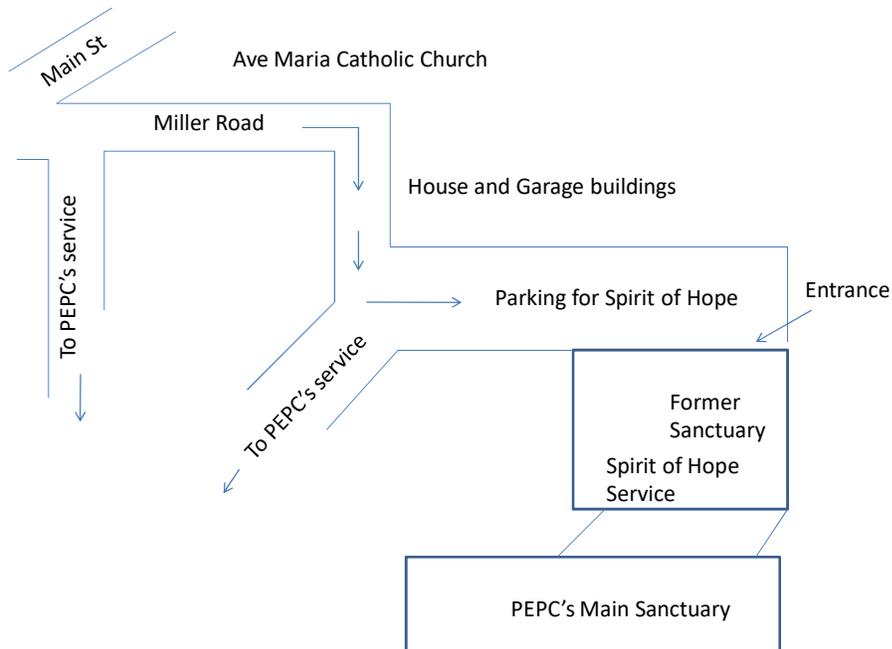
Once again, our good friends at Parker Evangelical Presbyterian Church (PEPC) are allowing us to use their Student Center (former sanctuary) for Christmas Eve worship. We will have our candlelight, communion and carol service at PEPC at 7:30 in the evening. Our service will also be blessed by special music selections from Chrissy Nefe, Ben Reinicke, Brad Hoyt, Brenda Reinicke and Stacy Fahrion!

PEPC is located at 9030 Miller Road, Parker, CO 80138 (see maps below).

At South Parker Road and Mainstreet, go east on Mainstreet for about 2.5 miles to Miller Road. Turn right on Miller Road and you'll see the main entrance to PEPC on the right. Their property is adjoined to Ave Maria Catholic Church. Follow the directional signs to the service.



Once you arrive to the campus at PEPC follow the directions of the parking attendants and signs to the former sanctuary that is now called the Student Center. Please see the map below.



PLEASE BRING A SMALL PLATE OF COOKIES AND OTHER CHRISTMAS "FINGER FOOD" TO SHARE FOR OUR BRIEF RECEPTION AFTER WORSHIP!

UPDATED VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Here are the current needs for volunteers to help with worship and fellowship on Christmas Eve. One more Communion assistant is needed so that we can serve wine as well as grape juice, two acolytes, one usher, and two greeters. Please see or contact Pastor Dave ASAP if you are able to help in any of these ways. Thank you!

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS AT SPIRIT OF HOPE (New Year's Eve Morning)

The Sunday after Christmas occurs on New Year's Eve this year, December 31, 2017. On this last day of the calendar year worship will occur as normal at Spirit of Hope's temporary worship space at Pine Lane Elementary North (6485 E Ponderosa Drive, Parker, CO 80138). This Sunday we will continue in the reading of Luke's gospel and cover the presentation of the infant Jesus at the temple in Jerusalem eight days after His birth (Luke 2:21-40). Fellowship will start at 9:00 am with worship to follow from 9:30 to 10:30 am. Sunday School will be in recess this day.

2018 LCMC THREE DAYS OF PRAYER

Once more our association, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) is calling for all member congregations to start the new calendar year by giving themselves to prayer for three days from January 2 – 4. The days may be structured in any way that a congregation feels led. The theme for each day is as follows: January 2 – confession; January 3 – petition; January 4 – vision. Click on the following link to learn more:

<http://www.lcmc.net/three-days-of-prayer>

YOUTH NEWS!

Upcoming January Youth Events

Prayer and pie night 1/3 from 7-8:30 pm at the Parker Village Inn

Youth Group 1/7 from 12-2 pm

Youth Group 1/28 from 12-2 pm.

Prayer and Pie Night January 3rd

Youth in grades 7 through young adults are invited to join us for an evening of fellowship, food, pie, and prayer. We will be meeting at the Village Inn at 7 pm. Order anything off the menu, even just a drink, and receive a free piece of pie! Remember to bring money for the item(s) you order and to leave a generous tip. We will lift up everyone's prayer requests. Friends are welcome! Please RSVP to Intern Wendy by January 2nd.

EEMN YOUTH MISSION TEAM

Spirit of Hope is excited to offer our youth several exciting mission opportunities in 2018. The first opportunity is to serve for just over two weeks in Bulgaria and Slovakia (with a side trip to Philippi!). This mission team will be part of a larger team from around the world serving under EEMN. Teens and young adults will be working with high school students at a Christian adventure camp, similar to our own Lutheran Valley Retreat. Not only will adventures be had with Eastern European teens, but there will be significant time spent studying and discussing the Bible, worshipping, and helping the teens with their English language skills. Parents received a detailed information letter in October and EEMN gave a presentation at Spirit of Hope in November. There is an Early Bird registration discount for team members who register before December 31st. All team members must register by January 31st. Our second mission trip offering will

be a trip to serve on the White Mountain Apache Reservation with Apache Youth Ministries. This may be a youth trip or all church trip depending on the needs of AYM. Details will be available in the coming months. If you would like more information on either of these trip opportunities, please contact Pastor Dave or Intern Wendy.

DECEMBER IS A FIVE SUNDAY MISSION TUB MONTH!

This month Spirit of Hope continues the tradition of collecting tomato products for SECOR and reading glasses, action toys and Christian coloring books for Mean Street Ministry. Thanks for your donations!

CHURCH BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

At the church board meeting of November 28, it was reported that Gary Flora had been nominated for the 2018 board for a new two year term to replace outgoing board member and vice-president, Tim Lenherz. Gary has accepted this nomination and has begun the vetting process. The congregation is invited to give any input to the board regarding Gary's nomination until January 9. Susan Spancers and Steve Gutknecht, whose terms end this year, have agreed to serve another two-year term. President Wayne Schultz and Secretary Brad Hoyt have each agreed to continue to serve until the completion of the building project next year. At that point they will have an option to step down if they so choose.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

On November 27 subcontractors for the project successfully passed a fire hydrant pressure and pump test for South Metro Fire and Rescue Authority. The test was to verify that our on-site fire hydrant was capable of handling a pressurized draw from SMFRA fire pump trucks in the event of a fire and to verify that the water coming from our cisterns was clean and would not clog up any fire pump trucks. The stop work order that had been placed on the project until the test could occur successfully was then lifted.

Since December 4, crews have been back on site working to finish HVAC ducting, rough electrical, and the glass storefront entrance doors. Watch future newsletters for updates on estimated completion of the project in 2018. Thank you for your continued prayers for our building project.

Prayer Requests - If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain please contact Pastor Dave at 303-941-0668 or pastordave@spiritofhopelcmc.org

Jesus said; "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

Please include the following people in your prayers:

For comfort for the families who lost loved ones in yesterday's train accident in Washington State and for healing for those injured

For safety for those who are traveling for the holidays

For the wildfires in Southern California to cease and all those devastated by this disaster will be able to begin the recovery process

For healing for a friend of Christian Ramirez, Taryn Serio, and Taryn's sister and another friend who were involved in a recent serious auto accident. Please pray for Taryn to heal as well as the other two involved in the accident who are suffering from concussions and trauma

For healing for Wayne Schultz' brother, Linn, and his wife, Leslie, who live in Texas. Linn has fallen several times in his care facility and recently cracked two ribs. Please pray for healing and strength for both Linn and Leslie

For healing for Jackie Dillon who was involved in a recent auto accident in which she suffered four broken ribs and bruises

For healing and strength for Rachel Winegar, the adult daughter of Ben Potthoff's 5th grade teacher. Rachel is battling colon cancer and being treated with chemotherapy in the Denver area

For continued healing from vascular issues for James Kallas the father of Cathy Morano's friend in Chicago, Traci

For healing for Tracey Ramirez from her recent ankle surgery

For our Christian brothers and sisters all over the world who suffer persecution to be comforted and strengthened and for the Lord God to defeat the evil of terrorism done to them

For our church as we seek God's guidance and providence as we continue the building project

For Spirit of Hope mission partners: Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ, Southeast Community Outreach, Mean Street Ministries, Apache Youth Ministries, East European Mission Network, Missionary Carrie, Tartu Academy of Theology

For Spirit of Hope mission allies: Marion Medical Missions, Bethesda Lutheran Ministries, Compassion International, the Institute of Lutheran Theology

For missionaries around the world as they seek to proclaim the gospel

All of our military fighting for our freedoms

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (Members and Friends)

December Birthdays

12/5 Denise Christensen
12/5 Laura Zwegardt
12/11 Carolyn Kleven
12/16 Chloe Lehnerz
12/20 Herb Potthoff
12/21 Delmer Zwegardt
12/28 Joseph Ravitts

December Anniversaries

12/14 Marvin & Polly Gates
12/18 Justin & Crystal Trawny
12/27 Jack & Jean Huebsch

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

December income (to date) = **\$10,097**

December expenses (to date) = **\$6,226**

Checking = **\$34,812**

Money Market (Reserves) = **\$22,211**

Building Fund = **\$451,806**